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## **Burgum issues statement on Dakota Access Pipeline easement**

BISMARCK, N.D. (Feb. 7, 2017). – Gov. Doug Burgum issued the following statement today after Acting Secretary of the Army Robert Speer informed him that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers was notifying Congress of its intent to issue the easement for the Dakota Access Pipeline crossing at Lake Oahe.

"Secretary Speer informed me that the Corps has completed its review of the easement and plans to issue it no earlier than Wednesday afternoon," Gov. Burgum said. "This is a key step toward the completion of this important infrastructure project, which has faced months of politically driven delays and will allow for safe transport of North Dakota product to market."

"Our top priority remains public safety and the environmental cleanup of the protest camps that lie within the floodplain to avoid an ecological disaster when potentially dangerous spring flooding arrives," Burgum said. "We continue to support the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe's request that protesters leave the area and go home. We also continue to ask for additional federal law enforcement assistance to assist local and state authorities in peacekeeping and provide a safe environment for all North Dakotans until construction is completed."

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